

Remarks

The Office Action dated 07/20/2004 states:

"The reply filed on 5/3/04 is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s): the amended subject matter (Fig. 2B) do not belong to the elected species (Figs. 7A-7I) It appears that applicants are combining different species. See 37 CFR 1.111."

Applicant submits that all of the claims read on the elected species of Figures 7A-7I. Figure 2B was referred to in the amended claims because the contact 14A includes essentially the same elements as the contact 14B of Figure 7F. However, some of these elements such as the diameter D, the depth X, and the length L, are not identified in Figure 7F, but they are still there.

As stated at page 21, lines 10-14 of the specification:

"Next, as shown in Figure 7F, the recess 20B can be etched in the substrate 14B, substantially as previously described for recess 20A (Figure 5F)." Figure 5F shows the same recess 20A as is shown in Figure 2B.

In other words, the elected species of Figures 7A-7I includes elements that are shared with the non-elected species of Figures 2A-2D. The reference to Figure 2B in the amended claims is for the purpose of identifying features that may not have reference numerals in Figures 7A-7I, but are still present.


As another example, the amended claims refer to Figure 2D because it shows the component 18 and the bumped contact 16. These features are also included in the elected method of Figures 7A-7I but are not shown. Similarly, Figure 3C identifies surface 26B, which is also present in the

elected method of Figures 7A-7I, but not specifically identified.

As 37 CFR 1.111 does not require elected species to have totally different features, the holding of non responsiveness in the Office Action is traversed. Should any issues arise that will advance this case to allowance, the Examiner is asked to contact the undersigned by telephone.

DATED this 23rd day of July, 2004.

Respectfully submitted:



STEPHEN A. GRATTON
Registration No. 28,418
Attorney for Applicant

2764 S. Braun Way
Lakewood, CO 80228
Telephone: (303) 989-6353
FAX (303) 989-6538

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner For Patents, PO BOX 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 23rd day of July, 2004.

July 23, 2004
Date of Signature



Stephen A. Gratton, Attorney for Applicant